

Web Updates

The National Elk Refuge will regularly post all hunting updates on the Refuge’s web site at <http://www.fws.gov/nationalelkrefuge/NERHuntingRegs.htm>, including information on the permit application process, alternate permits, drawing times and dates, etc. Please check the web site for updates throughout the season.

Hunt Reports

A blank hunt report for the National Elk Refuge will be provided with your license. Your hunt information is critical to the Refuge’s hunting program. Please return the hunt report to one of the locations listed on the document.

Youth Hunt

During the first two days of the first hunt period, October 9 – 15, the “Any Elk” permits will be issued only to youths age 12 – 17. Youths must be accompanied by an experienced non-hunting adult and will be subject to State and Refuge regulations.

Hunters With Disabilities

The National Elk Refuge encourages hunters with disabilities to participate in the elk hunt program and seeks to afford them reasonable accommodation for the activity. Hunters who have both a Wyoming Game & Fish Disabled Hunter Permit and a National Elk Refuge permit are eligible to reserve a designated accessible hunt site on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations can be made at the Jackson Hole & Greater Yellowstone Visitor Center at 532 N. Cache Street in Jackson. A hunter with a disability who does not have a reservation may use a designated accessible hunt site if the site is not occupied or reserved.

Accessibility

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. Dial 711 for a free connection to the State relay service for TTY and voice calls to and from the speech and hearing impaired. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the Refuge staff at 307 / 733 9212, or the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

South Unit Limited Range Weapons Hunt

In 2007, an antlerless elk hunt with limited range weapons was instituted on the south end of the National Elk Refuge. Persons with a north unit elk hunting Refuge permit are not eligible for a south unit permit for the same hunt period and should not apply.

Additional Information

Permit holders with two valid Wyoming elk hunting licenses may use and fill both licenses while hunting on the Refuge. Hunters attempting to fill two valid licenses during the same hunt period do not need to apply for two Refuge permits.

The Wyoming Game & Fish Department will be conducting Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) surveillance again this season. Results from samples submitted by hunters can be tracked on-line. Contact patrol officers for further information.

Contact Information

For questions or additional information, please visit or call one of the following locations:

Jackson Hole & Greater Yellowstone Visitor Center
532 North Cache Street
Jackson, WY 83001
307 / 734 9378

National Elk Administrative Office
675 E. Broadway
PO Box 510
Jackson, WY 83001
307 / 733 9212
307 / 7339729 fax
<http://www.fws.gov/nationalelkrefuge>

For State relay service
TTY / Voice: 711

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov>

For Refuge Information
1 800 / 344 WILD

August 2010



This blue goose, designed by J.N. “Ding” Darling, is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

General Information

Elk herd size management is an important objective of National Elk Refuge biologists, and hunting helps to serve this objective and provide wildlife-dependent recreation to hunters.

Firearm hunting of elk on the National Elk Refuge is permitted from October 9 through December 12, 2010, unless the season for Special Permit Area 77 (*which includes the Refuge*) closes earlier. Archery hunting for elk on the Refuge is restricted to the south unit limited range weapon hunt (see separate leaflet).

Nine hunt periods will be available to hunters. Hunt periods are one week long, with the exception of Period #2 which includes two extra days:

- Period #1: October 9 – 15
- Period #2: October 16 – 24
- Period #3: October 25 – 31
- Period #4: November 1 – 7
- Period #5: November 8 – 14
- Period #6: November 15 – 21
- Period #7: November 22 – 28
- Period #8: November 29 – December 5
- Period #9: December 6 – 12

“Any Elk” permits will be issued during the first hunt period (October 9 – 15); “Antlerless Only” permits will be issued for the remaining eight hunt periods (October 16 through December 12.) Note: Limited quota cow/calf licenses (Type 6) are excluded during “Any Elk” week.

National Elk Refuge

2010 North Unit Elk Hunting

Information and Regulations

Application Information

Refuge permits are no longer distributed at a weekly drawing in Jackson where hunters must be present. To apply for an elk hunting permit to hunt on the National Elk Refuge, hunters must complete an application on-line (see On-Line Permit Application) between August 10 – September 21, initially applying for only one hunt period per hunt unit. ***Persons with a north unit hunt permit are not eligible for a south unit hunt permit for the same hunt period and should not apply.*** The results of the computerized random draw will be posted on the application web site on September 28. On September 28, the on-line system will continue to be active to allow access to any permits that were not issued during the initial random draw. Any unissued (leftover) permits will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Persons who were successful for one hunt period during the September 28 drawing may reapply for a first-come, first-served leftover permit valid for another hunt period.

On-Line Permit Application

The application process for National Elk Refuge elk hunting permits is conducted in cooperation with the Wyoming Game & Fish Private Lands Public Wildlife Access program. Applications are available at <http://gf.state.wy.us/plpwhmprogram/frmHunterManagementHome.aspx>. Click on “Apply for, reprint, or correct an HMA permission slip” to begin the application process.

For a direct link to the web site, visit the National Elk Refuge’s weg page at <http://www.fws.gov/nationalelkrefuge>, and click on “Apply for a National Elk Refuge Elk Hunting Permit.”

Alternate Permits

Alternate permits become immediately available after the season has begun. These permits help Refuge managers ensure that the harvest is adequate to achieve the optimum healthy herd size. Alternate permits for the north unit elk hunt will be available for each period of the hunt season, excluding the first hunt period of October 9 – 15. The number of north unit alternate permits available includes:

- October 9 – 15: no alternates
- October 16 – 24: 70 alternates
- October 25 – 31: 70 alternates
- November 1 – November 7: 70 alternates
- November 8 – 14: 70 alternates
- November 15 – 21: 70 alternates
- November 22 – 28: 70 alternates
- November 29 – December 5: 60 alternates
- December 6 – 12: 60 alternates

Alternate permits will be available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 9:00 am Mountain Time each Monday and Wednesday from October 18 through December 8. These permits will be issued through the same on-line system outlined above (See On-Line Permit Application).

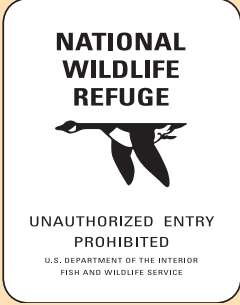
To disperse hunters over the hunt period, half of the alternate permits issued will be valid for Monday through Sunday of the respective week, and the remaining half will be valid for Wednesday through Sunday of the same week.

Individuals who were already successful in obtaining a permit for another hunt period may still apply for an alternate permit.

Alternate permits are usually distributed quickly, often within minutes of the 9:00 am time they become available. If the National Elk Refuge is not listed on the drop-down menu on the application web site, all permits have been issued for that hunt period.

Refuge Signs

Know Their Meaning



Refuge Boundary Sign Entry by Permission Only



Area Off Limits to the Public Unless Otherwise Specified



Area Open to Hunting at Specific Times

Special Regulations for Hunting on the National Elk Refuge

Special Permit Area No. 77

Hunting on the National Elk Refuge is permitted in accordance with Federal and State of Wyoming regulations. Additional regulations are necessary to protect wildlife and habitat. Please familiarize yourself with the following information to help ensure a safe and enjoyable hunt.

Refuge Access and Travel

- Access to the Refuge hunt area is only allowed through the main Refuge entrance at the end of East Broadway Street in Jackson.
- Vehicles must be parked in one of the designated hunter parking areas on the Refuge.
- Hunters may not exit their vehicles on roads between hunter parking areas.
- Motorized vehicle travel in the hunt area is prohibited except as noted in the section entitled “Retrieval of Harvested Animals.”
- Horses and bicycles are permitted in the hunt area, but bicycles must remain on designated retrieval roads.
- ATVs must be titled and licensed and may only be driven on the Refuge Road to one of the hunter parking areas. ATVs are not allowed on Refuge retrieval roads.

Special Refuge Hunting Regulations

Rifle hunting for elk is limited to the North Unit hunt area. This area is bounded on the west by the Highway 26/89 fence line and on the north by the south bank of the Gros Ventre River main channel. The south and east boundaries of the North Hunt Unit are identified by signs.

All State of Wyoming hunting regulations (available online at <http://gf.state.wy.us/admin/Regs/index.asp>) are in effect and will be enforced. Hunters should review all regulations and maps prior to hunting on the Refuge. Hunting permits may be revoked in the event of improper hunter conduct or violation of regulations. This could result in denial of hunting privileges on the Refuge.

- The following items must be in the hunter’s possession while elk hunting on the Refuge:
 - Refuge elk hunting permit
 - Valid State hunting license
 - Valid Hunter Safety or Instructor Card or certificate for persons born after January 1, 1966
 - Wyoming Conservation Stamp
 - Wyoming Elk Feed Ground Special Management Permit
- Legal shooting times are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- Fluorescent orange exterior garments as defined by State regulations must be worn by anyone in the hunt area.
- Only one person without a permit may accompany a hunter and must stay with the hunter at all times.
- Persons may only discharge firearms while actively hunting with a valid Refuge permit in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 32).
- Hunters are limited to a maximum of seven cartridges in possession per day per license in the hunt area.
- Certified weed-free livestock feed is required on the Refuge.
- Prior to the start date of the hunt, hunters may only access Refuge areas open to the general public. Hunters are not allowed early entry into specific hunt areas.

Prohibited activities include:

- Target or practice shooting
- Shooting wildlife other than elk without a permit
- Pursuing or following elk by vehicle, including between parking areas
- Shooting from parking areas or Refuge roads
- Overnight camping or parking, including parking lots or hunt areas
- Parking along Refuge roads
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.
- Collection of specimens, including but not limited to antlers, skulls, and artifacts.

Retrieval of Harvested Animals

The following information will assist successful hunters in retrieval of elk from the hunt area:

- Retrieval of harvested elk may not occur before 2:00 pm. Designated retrieval roads will be open to vehicle travel to retrieve elk from 2:00 pm to dark.
- Elk should be dragged to the nearest retrieval road (see map). Hunters should return by the most direct route to the parking lot. Driving off designated roads is prohibited.
- Successful hunters may not transport other hunters into the hunt area. Only the successful hunter and helper(s) may be in the vehicle.
- The Refuge has wheeled carts and sleds available to assist hunters. Ask patrol officers for further information.
- A commercial retrieval service is available on the Refuge for a fee. Ask patrol officers for contact information.
- Ear tags and radio collars from harvested animals should be returned to the administrative office.
- Refuge roads may temporarily close due to inclement weather or management considerations.

